

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 06042 01 OF 02 080811Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 VO-05 CA-01 INSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 H-01 /046 W

-----010905 080833Z/12

R 080759Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8903

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

USMISSION GENEVA

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E. O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : SREF

SUBJECT : AIR FLIGHTS AND BOAT CASES - TAIWAN, ROC

### 1. AIR EVAC (ICRC) HCM CITY/BANGKOK/TAIPEI:

THERE ARE INDOCHINESE PERSONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA(ROC) WHO WERE ABLE TO CLAIM RESETTLEMENT IN THE ROC OR RIGHTS OF RETURN TO THE ROC. WITH THE HELP OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS, THE GROC IS ACCEPTING FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT HERE CERTAIN INDOCHINESE PERSONS THAT THEY CONSIDER REFUGEES OF CHINESE ORIGIN.

THESE PERSONS NORMALLY HAVE ROC PASSPORTS IN THEIR POSSESSION AND HAVE RELATIVES HERE. SINCE SEPTEMBER 1976 ABOUT 2100 PERSONS HAVE TRAVELED TO TAIPEI FROM THE SRV TO BANGKOK. THEY THEN HAVE PROCEEDED TO THE ROC ABOARD ABOUT 14 SEPARATE FLIGHTS (SEE PARA 6).

### 2. BOAT CASES:

SINCE EARLY 1977 ABOUT 900 INDOCHINESE BOAT REFUGEES HAVE BEEN LANDED IN THE ROC. THE FIRST BOAT REFUGEES

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PAGE 02 TAIPEI 06042 01 OF 02 080811Z

TO BE RESETTLED IN THE UNITED STATES LEFT THE ROC IN FEBRUARY 1978. THIS IS THE ONLY GROUP RESETTLED. IN 1978 ALONE THERE HAVE BEEN THIRTEEN BOATS WHICH HAVE LANDED ABOUT 800 BOAT REFUGEES IN THE ROC. MOST RECENTLY ON AUGUST 21, 1978 THE BRITISH SHIP "AVON FOREST" LANDED 40 INDOCHINESE BOAT REFUGEES. THE GROC WAS GUARANTEED BY THE UKG THAT THIS GROUP

OF BOAT REFUGEES WOULD LEAVE TAIWAN WITHIN THREE MONTHS. FROM THE TOTAL GROUP OF BOAT REFUGEES, THE UNITED STATES HAS ACCEPTED FOR RESETTLEMENT 53 PERSONS AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA HAS ACCEPTED 11, ALL ETHNIC CHINESE. THUS THERE REMAIN ABOUT 800 BOAT REFUGEES HERE.

3. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THESE 800 BOAT REFUGEES MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR LRP CATEGORIES I, II, AND III. THE MAJORITY OF THE REFUGEES PROBABLY WILL BE CATEGORY IV. HOW SOON ANY CATEGORY IV'S MAY BE MOVED IS UNKNOWN. OTHER THAN THE USG AND THE GROC THERE ARE NO OTHER GOVERNMENTS ACCEPTING REFUGEES FROM TAIWAN FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FOUR REFUGEES WHO HAVE APPLIED TO RESETTLE IN AUSTRALIA AND THE "AVON FOREST" FORTY.)

4. IN EARLY SEPTEMBER AN U.S. IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION OFFICER FROM HONG KONG WILL ARRIVE IN THE ROC TO INTERVIEW INDOCHINESE BOAT REFUGEES. GROC AUTHORITIES HOPE THAT ONCE THESE INTERVIEWS ARE FINISHED AND THE REFUGEE CATEGORIES CONFIRMED, ELIGIBLE BOAT REFUGEES WILL BE QUICKLY MOVED ON TO THE U.S. THERE WILL, HOWEVER, REMAIN THE PROBLEM OF THOSE BOAT REFUGEES WHO ARE NOT ACCEPTED BY THE UNITED STATES AND WHO DO NOT WISH TO REMAIN OR

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PAGE 03 TAIPEI 06042 01 OF 02 080811Z

PROBABLY CANNOT REMAIN IN TAIWAN, E.G., NON-ETHNIC CHINESE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: ALTHOUGH NOT ASKED FOR THIS INFORMATION BY THE GROC, THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING IF IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT BE MADE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WHO ARE ACCEPTING REFUGEES TO CONSIDER THE PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT OF SOME OF THE BOAT REFUGEES IN TAIWAN WHO ARE UNABLE TO QUALIFY UNDER THE LRP AND WHO DO NOT WISH OR PROBABLY CANNOT REMAIN IN TAIWAN AS THEY ARE NOT ETHNIC CHINESE.

6. AIR(ICRC) EVAC BOAT CASES  
ARRIVAL DATE NUMBER OF REFUGEES ARRIVAL DATE NUMBER OF  
OF  
CHINESE ORIGIN VARIOUS

SEP 2 1976 104 DEC 28 1977 28

MAY 10, 1977 142 MAR 17, 1978 47

MAY 23, 1977 134 APR 28, 1978 17

AUG 27, 1977 152 MAY 5, 1978 32

AUG 29, 1977 157 JUN 2, 1978 8

SEP 10, 1977 152 JUN 9, 1978 21

MAY 13, 1978 150 JUN 10, 1978 12

JUNE 8, 1978 152 JUN 15, 1978 2

JULY 13, 1978 155 JUN 15, 1978 19

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PAGE 04 TAIPEI 06042 01 OF 02 080811Z

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 06042 02 OF 02 080812Z

ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 VO-05 CA-01 INSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 H-01 /046 W

-----010912 080832Z /12

R 080759Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8904

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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JULY 20, 1978 156 JUN 27, 1978 113

AUG 3, 1978 144 JUL 2, 1978 33

AUG 10, 1978 154 JUL 4, 1978 10

AUG 24, 1978 148      AUG 14, 1978 444

AUG 31, 1978 145      AUG 23, 1978 40(AVON  
- FOREST)

TOTAL REFUGEES 2,135      TOTAL REFUGEES 818

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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20 Mar 2014  
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